In the Claims:

1—19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of compressing print data comprising:

determining a threshold of a printing device resource;

receiving an intermediate image file;

translating the intermediate image file to data described by a progressive encoding technique; and

selectively dropping quality information from the data when the threshold of a the printing device resource is met;

wherein the data described by the progressive encoding technique comprises embedded bit-streams.

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 claim 20, wherein dropping quality information is performed by dropping a quality block from each of the embedded bit-streams when the threshold of the printing device resource is met.

23.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20~~claim 21~~, wherein dropping quality information is performed by dropping a quality block from a longest embedded bit-stream of the embedded bit-streams when the threshold of the printing device resource is met.

24.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20~~claim 21~~, wherein dropping quality information is performed by dropping a quality block based on a predetermined metric from each of the embedded bit-streams when the threshold of the printing device resource is met.

25.   (Currently Amended) A method of compressing print data comprising:

determining a threshold of a printing device resource;

receiving an intermediate image file;

translating the intermediate image file to data described by a progressive encoding technique;

selectively dropping quality information from the data when the threshold of a the printing device resource is met; and

~~The method of claim 20, further comprising~~ completing translating the intermediate file when the threshold of the printing device resource is met.

26.   (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the intermediate image file comprises a page strip.

27.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the embedded bit-stream~~bit-stream~~bit-streams ~~comprises~~comprise an image chain.

28.   (Original) An embedded bit-stream compressor comprising:

means for receiving an intermediate image file;

means for translating the intermediate image file to embedded bit-streams;

means for selectively dropping quality information from the embedded bit-streams when a predetermined threshold of a printing device resource is met.

29.   (Original) The embedded bit-stream compressor of claim 28 wherein the means for translating the intermediate image file includes a means for completing translating when the predetermined threshold of the printing device resource is met.

30.   (Original) The embedded bit-stream compressor of claim 28 further comprising means for storing the embedded bit-streams to a recordable medium.

31.   (Original) A computer program product, encoded in computer readable media, comprising:

a first set of instructions, executable on a computer system, configured to receive an intermediate image file;

a second set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to translate the intermediate image file to embedded bit-streams; and

a third set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to drop quality information from the embedded bit-streams when a predetermined threshold of a printing device resource is met.

32.   (Currenlty Amended) The computer program product of ~~claim 36~~claim 31 further comprising:

a fourth set of instructions, executable on the computer system, configured to store the embedded bit-streams on recordable media.

33.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the second set of instructions translates the intermediate file when the predetermined threshold of the printing device resource is met.

34.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the third set of instructions drop quality by dropping a portion of quality information from each of the embedded bit-streams when the predetermined threshold of the printing device is met.

35.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the third set of instructions drop quality information by dropping a portion of quality information from a longest embedded bit-stream of the embedded bit-streams when the predetermined threshold of the printing device is met.

36.   (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the third set of instructions drop quality information by dropping a portion of quality information based on a predetermined metric from each of the embedded bit-streams when the predetermined threshold of the printing device is met.